

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1-3 and 12-14.

The Specification and Claims were objected to for containing informalities. Particularly, the Examiner noted that words in the disclosure and claims are not always separated from each other. Applicants submit herewith, a Substitute Specification that includes proper spacing. Applicants' undersigned attorney certifies that no new matter has been added in the Substitute Specification. It is noted that Applicants have not provided a marked-up copy of the original specification because the Substitute Specification is identical to the originally filed specification except for the font and spacing. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the Substitute Specification and withdrawal of the objection to the Specification and Claims.

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The claims have been amended to overcome the informalities. In view of the Amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuriyama et al. (U.S. 6,068,499) This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

"An electronic component comprising:
an insulative case;
a plurality of surface-mounting terminals mounted on said insulative case;

at least one notch provided in and extending entirely through said insulative case in a thickness direction from a top surface to a bottom surface thereof to accommodate a lead portion of at least one of said plurality of surface-mounting terminals; and

said notch providing a clearance between said insulative case and said lead portion of said at least one of said plurality of surface-mounting terminals to prevent the occurrence of capillary effect of solder applied to said electronic component." (Emphasis added)

Claim 12 has been amended to recite features that are similar to claim 1, including the emphasized features.

The present invention is directed to an electronic component including a notch which extends entirely through the insulative case such that occurrences of capillary effect when soldering the lead portions of the fixed and movable terminals are prevented.

In contrast, Kuriyama teaches a coaxial connector including an insulative case 2, a fixed terminal 4 and a movable terminal 5. The insulative case 2, at best, includes a notch that extends partially through the insulative case. Therefore, Kuriyama clearly fails to teach or suggest "at least one notch provided in and extending entirely through said insulative case in a thickness direction from a top surface to a bottom surface thereof to accommodate a lead portion".

Further, the notch provided in Kuriyama that extends only partially through the thickness of the insulative case 2 fails to prevent the occurrence of capillary effect of solder applied to the lead portions 11 and 12 of the fixed and movable terminals 4 and 5, respectively. In fact, Kuriyama does not even recognize the problem of capillary effect to the necessity or desirability of a structure to prevent the capillary effect, let alone teach or suggest any structure to prevent such capillary effect.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Kuriyama fails to teach or suggest the unique combination and arrangement of elements recited in claims 1 and 12 of the present invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 12 are allowable. Claims 2-11 and 13-20 depend upon claims 1 and 12, respectively, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 12 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions the Commissioner for a One-month

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extension of time, extending to December 14, 2001, the period for response to the
Office Action dated August 14, 2001.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

1. An electronic component comprising:
an insulative case;
a plurality of surface-mounting terminals mounted on said insulative case;
at least one notch provided in and extending entirely through said insulative case in a thickness direction from a top surface to a bottom surface thereof to accommodate a lead portion of at least one of said plurality of surface-mounting terminals; and
said notch [having] providing a clearance between said insulative case and said lead portion of said at least one of said plurality of surface-mounting terminals to prevent the occurrence of capillary effect of solder applied to said electronic component.

2. An electronic component as claimed in claim 1, [further comprising] said lead portion of said at least one of said plurality of surface-mounting terminals includes a solder fillet portion [and at least one lead portion].

3. An electronic component as claimed in claim 2, wherein said clearance is provided between the solder fillet portion and [a soldered portion of said at least one lead portion] said insulative case.

12. A coaxial connector comprising:
an insulative case having a hollow portion into which a central contact of a mating coaxial connector is inserted;
a fixed terminal and a movable terminal for surface mounting, said fixed terminal and movable terminal being mounted to the hollow portion of said insulative case;
a surface-mounting external terminal mounted onto the outside of said insulative case, said surface-mounting external terminal being electrically connected with an outer conductor of said mating coaxial connector; and
notches provided in and extending entirely through said insulative case in a thickness direction from a top surface to a bottom surface thereof to accommodate lead portions of each of said fixed terminal and movable terminal.

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13. A coaxial connector as claimed in claim 12, wherein each of said notches includes a clearance between said lead portions of each of said fixed terminal and said movable terminal and said insulative case to prevent the occurrence of capillary effect.

14. A coaxial connector as claimed in claim 13, wherein each of said clearances being defined between a solder fillet portion of said lead portions and [a soldered portion of said lead portions] said insulative case.